

AMENDMENTS TO THE SPECIFICATION

Please add the following new paragraph immediately after paragraph [0012]:

[0012.1] FIG. 8 is a rear perspective view of a sixth embodiment of the lock protector of the present invention showing a single member having two openings.

Please add the following new paragraphs immediately after paragraph [0024]:

[0024.1] Instead of two arms each having an opening extending from the rear surface of the face plate of lock protectors 10, 110, 210, 310, and 410, lock protector 510 as shown in FIG. 8 has a single member 514 having two openings 520, 522 extending from the rear surface 518 of face plate 512. The openings 520, 522 are horizontally spaced apart to match the spacing of shackle legs and large enough to freely accept the legs with opening 522 elongated to accommodate some variation in shackle leg spacing.

[0024.2] In addition, member 514 is preferably stair-stepped so that openings 520, 522 are vertically spaced to prevent excessive up and down movement of the protector 510 as in the other embodiments. Although member 514 is stair-stepped in this particular embodiment of the invention, the member 514 may alternatively be flat and positioned at an incline so that the openings are vertically spaced. This is but one of many shapes or configurations that member 514 can take to accomplish the goal of having the openings in a vertically and horizontally spaced arrangement.